

carrier on a solid phase by linking together [the] monomeric units containing protecting groups, wherein at least one of the following steps (a) and (b) is conducted:

(a) a plurality of monomeric units are covalently coupled to at least one of hapten molecules and marker groups or solid phase binding groups and, during said synthesizing step, the plurality of monomeric units are introduced onto the polymeric carrier at predetermined positions on the polymeric carrier; and

(b) after said synthesizing step, cleaving the protecting groups and thereafter at least one of activated hapten molecules and marker groups or solid phase binding groups are coupled to [reactive] primary amino or thiol side groups of the polymeric carrier at predetermined positions on the polymeric carrier.

Please cancel claim 63, without prejudice or disclaimer.

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the Office Action dated May 28, 1998, and submit the amendments above and the remarks to follow as a full and complete response thereto.

Claims 39-70 are currently pending. In this Response, applicants amend claim 60 and cancel claim 63. Therefore, claims 39-62 and 64-70, as amended, are presented for reconsideration.

Claims 39, 41-44, 49, 50, 55, 56, 66, 69 and 70 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Bredehorst.